



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/920,827 | 08/03/2001 | Jai Chul Kim | HI-0038 | 7512 |
| 34610 | 7590 | 05/19/2005 | EXAMINER | |
| FLESHNER & KIM, LLP P.O. BOX 221200 CHANTILLY, VA 20153 | | | KNOWLIN, THJUAN P | |
| | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER | |
| | | 2642 | | |

DATE MAILED: 05/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 09/920,827 | KIM, JAI CHUL | |

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|--|
| Examiner | Art Unit | |
| Thjuan P. Knowlin | 2642 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 December 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 03 August 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

| | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment filed on December 15, 2004 has been entered. Claims 1-17 have been amended. No claims have been cancelled. Claim 18 has been added. Claims 1-18 are now pending in this application, with claims 1, 6, and 12 being independent.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
3. Claims 1, 3-4, 6-9, 11-14, and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as been anticipated by Slipy et al (US 5,848,152).
4. In regards to claims 1, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, and 18, Slipy discloses a mobile telephone (radiotelephone handset 100) and interchangeable button cover comprising: a telephone body comprising a button portion (keypad 106); and an interchangeable button cover interface (Fig. 1, Fig. 8-11, faceplate 104 and keypad cover 418) which is configured to allow multiple different types of button covers to detachably couple with the body (Fig. 1, Fig. 8-11, col. 5-6 lines 66-15, and col. 9-10 lines 65-15).
5. In regards to claims 3, 7, and 13, Slipy discloses the mobile telephone and interchangeable button cover, wherein the button cover comprises a bar type cover (faceplate 104 and keypad cover 418) comprising: a frame detachably mounted on the

button cover interface of telephone body so as to enclose the button portion; and keypads provided on one side of the frame which cover and are interlocked with key buttons of the button portion (Fig. 1, Fig. 8-11, col. 5 lines 40-54, col. 5-6 lines 66-15, and col. 9-10 lines 65-15).

6. In regards to claims 4, 6, 9, and 14, Slipy discloses the mobile telephone and interchangeable button cover, wherein the button cover comprises a flip type cover (faceplate 404 and keypad cover 418) comprising: a frame detachably mounted on the button cover interface of the telephone body; and a flip cover hingedly connected to the frame for selectively covering and exposing the button portion by means of a pivoting operation (Fig. 8-11, col. 9 lines 1-12, and col. 9-10 lines 65-15).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

8. Claims 2, 5, 10, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Slipy et al (US 5,848,152).

9. Slipy discloses all of claims 2, 5, 10, and 15 limitations, except the mobile telephone, further comprising a button cover which comprises a structure for covering the button portion, wherein the button cover is a sliding lid type cover. Slipy, however, does disclose the mobile telephone, further comprising a button cover which comprises a structure for covering the button portion, wherein the button cover is a bar type cover (faceplate 104) and a flip type cover (faceplate 404) (col. 9-10 lines 65-15). Therefore,

it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include a sliding lid type cover as one of the interchangeable button covers, as a way of allowing the user to alter the appearance of the mobile telephone (radiotelephone handset) with minimum expense and effort.

Response to Arguments

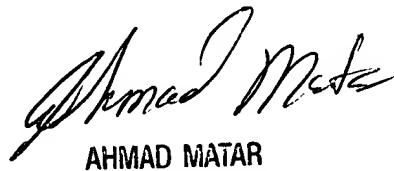
10. Applicant's arguments filed 12/15/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that Slipy fails to disclose or suggest a telephone having an interchangeable button cover interface, which is configured to allow multiple different types of button covers to detachably couple with the telephone body. Examiner respectfully disagrees with this argument. Slipy does disclose and suggest a telephone (radiotelephone handset 100) having an interchangeable button cover interface (faceplate 104 and keypad cover 418), which is configured to allow multiple different types of button covers to detachably couple with the telephone body (Fig. 1, Fig. 8-11, col. 5-6 lines 66-15, and col. 9-10 lines 65-15). Applicant further argues that the Slipy reference fails to disclose or suggest a mobile telephone having an interchangeable button cover, which is configured to cover substantially only a plurality of buttons on a mobile telephone body. The Slipy reference, however, does disclose and suggest a mobile telephone having an interchangeable button cover (Fig. 1, Fig. 8-11, faceplate 104, and keypad cover 418), which is configured to cover substantially only a plurality of buttons on a mobile telephone body (Fig. 8-11, col. 9 lines 1-12, and col. 9-10 lines 65-15).

Conclusion

11. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).
12. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.
13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thjuan P. Knowlin whose telephone number is (571) 272-7486. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00pm.
14. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on (571) 272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

15. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Thjuan P. Knowlin



AHMAD MATAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600